

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 709

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend R. Larry Lovelace of Old Hickory on the occasion of his recognition in the Star-Spangled Salute.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves in their chosen professions and as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is R. Larry Lovelace, President and Chief Executive Officer of Regions Bank of Middle Tennessee, who will be honored at the Star-Spangled Salute on March 11, 2004, an honor most befitting such an outstanding and accomplished Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, born on June 9, 1954 in Nashville to Robert and Ernestine Lovelace, Larry Lovelace attended Donelson Elementary School and Donelson Junior High School before graduating from DuPont High School in 1972 and earning a Bachelor of Science from Florida State University in 1976; and

WHEREAS, this immensely talented man attended Florida State University on a full swimming scholarship and still swims competitively, ranking among the nation's top ten swimmers in his age group as recently as 1999; and

WHEREAS, knowing the tremendous value of education, he has bettered himself and furthered his career by completing the Tennessee Commercial Lending School, National Commercial Lending School and National Graduate Commercial Lending School at the University of Oklahoma, and Banking School of the South at Louisiana State University; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Larry Lovelace has succeeded at a wide range of endeavors; he worked as a photographer during his high school years with his father and was

the swim coach at Ravenwood Club while a real estate agent with Baker-Harwell in the 1970s; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from college, he joined The Nashville City Bank, which he served with distinction through its purchase by Dominion Bankshares in 1985 and subsequent purchase by First Union in 1992; during that time, he earned a reputation for excellence and progressed from a management trainee through several positions of increasing importance; and

WHEREAS, a pioneer in his field, he opened the Nashville City Bank in Donelson in 1985 and joined Regions Bank of Middle Tennessee as Senior Vice President in charge of Credit Administration and Commercial Lending in 1993; in 2003, he reached the pinnacle of his field as he became President and CEO of Regions Bank of Middle Tennessee, overseeing fourteen branches and more than one hundred associates; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded in his community and his profession, Mr. Lovelace has served astutely as Chairman of the Board of the Better Business Bureau of Middle Tennessee, President of the Donelson-Hermitage Chamber of Commerce, Secretary to the Board of Old Hickory Country Club, Treasurer and Board Member of Crittenton Services, and as a Board Member of Sales and Marketing Executives of Middle Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, he has also found time to lend his remarkable talents and time to such other worthy organizations as the Nashville Chamber of Commerce, United Way, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, and Room in the Inn; and

WHEREAS, his professional and civic accomplishments aside, Larry Lovelace is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, the former Becky Murrah, who he joined in holy matrimony on May 3, 1986; deeply devoted to his family, he is the proud father of two sons, Curtis and Chase; and

WHEREAS, R. Larry Lovelace epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, and this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud him for his dedication to his chosen profession, his community, and the state of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend R. Larry Lovelace upon the occasion of his being honored in the Star-Spangled Salute, express to him our deepest thanks for his meritorious service as a banker and community leader of unquestioned judgment and ability, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.